IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

V.

1:14CR364-1

MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL : PLEA AGREEMENT

NOW COME the United States of America, by and through Ripley Rand, United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina, and the defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, in his own person and through his attorney, Gregory Davis, and state as follows:

- 1. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, is presently under Indictment herein in case number 1:14CR364-1, which in Counts One through Five charges him with violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a), interference with commerce, by robbery.
- 2. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, will enter a voluntary plea of guilty to Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein. The nature of these charges and the elements of these charges which must be proved by the United States beyond a reasonable doubt before the defendant can be found guilty thereof have been explained to him by his attorney.
- a. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL understands that the term of imprisonment provided by law for Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein is not more than twenty years, as to each count.

Case 1:14-cr-00364-JAB Document 20 Filed 01/05/15 Page 1 of 6

- b. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, also understands that, as to Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein, the Court may include as a part of the sentence a requirement that the defendant be placed on a term of supervised release of not more than three years after imprisonment, as to each count, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3583.
- c. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, also understands that, as to Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein, the fine is \$250,000, as to each count. The fine is subject to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3571, entitled "Sentence of Fine." If any person derived pecuniary gain from the offense, or if the offense resulted in pecuniary loss to a person other than the defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, the defendant may, in the alternative, be fined not more than the greater of twice the gross gain or twice the gross loss unless the Court determines that imposition of a fine in this manner would unduly complicate or prolong the sentencing process. The fine provisions are subject to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3571, entitled "Sentence of Fine."
- d. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL understands that as to Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein, the Court shall order, in addition to any other penalty authorized by law, that the defendant make restitution to any victim of the

offenses to which he is pleading guilty, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3663A(a)(1). The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, further agrees to pay restitution, as determined by the Court, to any victims harmed by defendant's "relevant conduct," as defined by U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3663A(a)(3).

- e. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, further understands that the sentence to be imposed upon him is within the discretion of the sentencing Court subject to the statutory maximum penalties set forth above. The sentencing Court is not bound by the sentencing range prescribed by the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Nevertheless, the sentencing court is required to consult the Guidelines and take them into account when sentencing. In so doing, the sentencing Court will first calculate, after making the appropriate findings of fact, the sentencing range prescribed by the Guidelines, and then will consider that range as well as other relevant factors set forth in the Guidelines and those factors set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(a) before imposing the sentence.
- f. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, understands that if he is not a citizen of the United States that entering a plea of guilty may have adverse consequences with respect to his immigration status. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, nevertheless wishes to

enter a voluntary plea of guilty regardless of any immigration consequences his guilty plea might entail, even if such consequence might include automatic removal and possibly permanent exclusion from the United States.

- 3. By voluntarily pleading guilty to Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein, the defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, knowingly waives and gives up his constitutional rights to plead not guilty, to compel the United States to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, not to be compelled to incriminate himself, to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him, to have a jury or judge determine his guilt on the evidence presented, and other constitutional rights which attend a defendant on trial in a criminal case.
- 4. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, is going to plead guilty to Counts One, Two, Three, Four and Five of the Indictment herein because he is, in fact, guilty and not because of any threats or promises.
  - 5. The extent of the plea bargaining in this case is as follows:
- a. It is understood that if the Court determines at the time of sentencing that the defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, qualifies for a 2-point decrease in the offense level under Section 3E1.1(a) of the Sentencing Guidelines and that the offense level prior to the operation of Section 3E1.1(a) is 16 or greater, then the United States

will recommend a decrease in the offense level by 1 additional level pursuant to Section 3E1.1(b) of the Sentencing Guidelines. This portion of the Plea Agreement is made pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(B) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

- 6. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, agrees that pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3613, all monetary penalties, including restitution imposed by the Court, shall be due immediately upon judgment and subject to immediate enforcement by the United States. The defendant agrees that if the Court imposes a schedule of payments, the schedule of payments shall be merely a schedule of minimum payments and shall not be a limitation on the methods available to the United States to enforce the judgment.
- 7. It is further understood that the United States and the defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, reserve the right to bring to the Court's attention any facts deemed relevant for purposes of sentencing.
- 8. The defendant, MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL, further understands and agrees that pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3013, for any offense committed on or after October 11, 1996, the defendant shall pay an assessment to the Court of \$100.00 for each offense to which he is pleading guilty. This payment shall be made at the time of sentencing by cash or money order made payable to the Clerk of the United States District Court. If the defendant is indigent and

cannot make the special assessment payment at the time of sentencing, then the defendant agrees to participate in the Inmate Financial Responsibility Program for purposes of paying such special assessment.

9. No agreements, representations, or understandings have been made between the parties in this case other than those which are explicitly set forth in this Plea Agreement, and none will be entered into unless executed in writing and signed by all the parties.

This the Wh day of November, 2014.

RIPLEY RAND United States Attorney GREGOR'S DAVIS

Attorney for Defendant

ANDREW C. COCHRAN

NCSB #35216

MELVIN RAIMUND PAUL

Defendant

Special Assistant United States Attorney

251 N. Main Street, Suite 726

Winston-Salem, NC 27101

336/631-5268

7254